

Remarks

Claims 20-23 and 38 are pending.

Claim 20 is amended.

Claims 21-23 and 38 are as previously presented.

Claim 20 is amended in the fourth line below the structure of formula II to R₉ and R₁₀ correct the spelling of "are" and to delete hydrogen from the definition of R₉ and R₁₀.

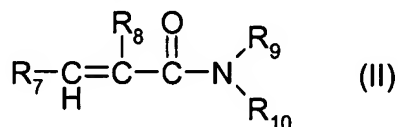
No new matter has been added.

Rejections

Claims are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heibel et.al., US 6,620,777 in view of Research Disclosure 429116.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that the neither of the cited reference discloses the copolymer of component B of instantly amended claim 20 which comprises a monomer of formula (II)



wherein each of R₉ and R₁₀ are independently from each other a C₁-C₄alkyl group. Applicants respectfully point to column 7, lines 36-40 of Heibel which discloses that the non-ionic monomer of the related copolymer in Heibel are selected from the group consisting of acrylamide, methacrylamide, N-alkyl acrylamide, N-vinyl pyrrolidone, vinylacetate, vinyl alcohol, acrylate esters, allyl alcohol, and derivatives thereof. No N-di-alkylacrylamide is disclosed. Research Disclosure 429116 also fails to disclose the N-di-alkylacrylamide monomer of the instant invention.

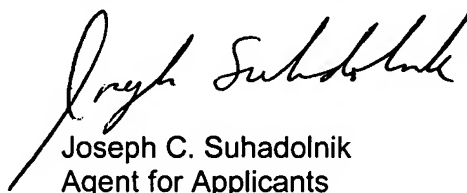
Applicants respectfully note that Research Disclosure 429116 does not disclose any fabric softener formulations, in particular, no amounts of polymers in the formulations are disclosed. Neither Heibel nor Research Disclosure 429116 provides the co-polymer of the instantly amended claims.

Thus, Applicants respectfully aver that the combined art fails to meet the limitations of the instantly amended claims.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 20-23 and 38 are addressed and are overcome and kindly ask that the rejections be withdrawn and that claims 20-23 and 38 found allowable.

In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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